

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 494

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION recognizing Fred R. Lawson for his many contributions to the communities and people of Blount County and Tennessee.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to specially recognize those citizens who have improved Tennessee's communities and the quality of life for their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Fred R. Lawson, the Chairman of BankEast, is one such intrepid individual who has committed himself to improving Blount County and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Mr. Lawson also attended the Louisiana State University School of Banking and the Harvard Institute for Financial Management; and

WHEREAS, he is the former director of a number of banks, including Blount National Bank in Maryville, the Bank of Pensacola in Pensacola, Florida, Merchants and Farmers Bank in Greenback, the First National Bank of Jefferson City, Citizens State Bank in McMinnville, the Bank of Cannon County in Woodbury, the Bank of East Tennessee in Knoxville, and BankFirst in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his preeminence in the field, Mr. Lawson was chosen to serve as the Commissioner of the Department of Financial Institutions during Governor Sundquist's administration; and

WHEREAS, Fred Lawson has served in a number of leadership positions in several professional organizations throughout his career, including standing as the president of the Tennessee Bankers Association and its Financial Products and Services and as a member of the boards of directors of the Tennessee Bankers Association, the Eastern Life Insurance Company, BancInsure Inc., the Tennessee Bankers Insurance Service, and Advanced

Computer Enterprises, and as a member of the Board of Regents for the MidSouth School of Banking in Memphis, among several others; and

WHEREAS, he has also dedicated his time and energies to a number of civic and community organizations, serving on the boards of Maryville College, the Window of Opportunity Campaign Committee for Maryville College, the Downtown Organization, the East Tennessee Historical Society, the Knoxville Symphony Society, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Covenant Health, Junior Achievement, the Bijou Theater, the Metropolitan Drug Commission, and the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, among many others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lawson is perhaps proudest of the love and support of his wife, Sharon Lawson; his children, Terry L. Adkins, Laura L. Rathbone, and Kris W. Newvine; and his grandchildren, Corey Allen Rathbone, Dylan Lawson Rathbone, Anna Elizabeth Akins, and Matthew Harrison Newvine; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that this body formally recognize Fred Lawson for his many positive contributions to Blount County and to the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commend Fred R. Lawson for all he has done to benefit Blount County, East Tennessee, and the entire State, extending our best wishes for his every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.